

Good morning,

My name is Sage Sculli, and I am a senior at Gardiner Area High School. I am writing in strong support of LD #537, An Act to Prohibit the Doxing of a Minor and to Authorize a Related Civil Action.

For the past two years, I have served as a student representative on the MSAD 11 school board. This year, I became the target of doxxing and online harassment after speaking in support of transgender youth mental health and the proposed school-based health clinic at school board meetings.

These meetings were live-streamed on a private social media platform, where they were narrated with mocking and disrespectful commentary about me and other board members. Shortly after, I was subjected to a FOAA (Freedom of Access Act) request demanding my text messages, social media activity, and electronic communications. These private details were then published online, including on an individual's X (formerly Twitter) account, where my name was used to paint me as immature, incompetent, and disrespectful.

The harassment did not stop there. Another FOAA request sought to publicize my college decision letter, a clear attempt to intimidate, embarrass, and silence me. The idea that such personal information could be made public was horrifying. My family attempted to pursue legal action, only to be told that nothing could be done.

This is exactly why LD #537 is necessary. No minor should have to endure this level of targeted harassment and public exposure simply for expressing their beliefs. This bill would provide a much-needed legal pathway for families to protect their children from doxxing and intimidation.

I urge you to vote "ought to pass" on LD #537 to safeguard the privacy and safety of young people in Maine.

Thank you for your time and consideration.